

February 21, 2014

Kristen Vital, Superintendent  
Alameda Unified School District

Mike McLaughlin, Superintendent  
San Leandro Unified School District

Donald Evans, Superintendent  
Berkeley Unified School District

Fred Brill, Superintendent  
San Lorenzo Unified School District

Dave Marken Superintendent  
Newark Unified School District

Superintendents,

This letter is in response to the January 17, 2014 communication from Dave Marken, Superintendent for the Newark Unified School District, concerning the status of BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds. Each of the undersigned chief business officials for the respective school districts have reviewed the letter from Dr. Marken, and related LCFF facts and projections published by the California Department of Education.

Based on our understanding of EBBIC (East Bay BTSA Induction Consortium) and a review of the published LCFF data and projections, we find the following:


- Newark USD, as the fiscal agent for EBBIC, was apportioned the BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds by the State for all EEBIC Districts. The BTSA funds were then distributed among EEBIC Districts in accordance with the annual MOU.
- Due to Newark USD's role as fiscal agent for EBBIC, *all* of the BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds for EBBIC Districts are included within the Newark USD LCFF revenues. None of the BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds are included in any other EBBIC District's LCFF revenues.
- LCFF *does not* equalize BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds among the EBBIC Districts. Newark USD gains 100% of the LCFF funding attributable to BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds. *Any claim that LCFF equalizes Teacher Credentialing Block Grant funds among EBBIC Districts for 2013-14 is false.*
- For the 2013-14 fiscal year, Newark USD's LCFF revenues are projected to be *\$788,362* higher due to BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds that are included in the District's LCFF funding calculation.
- Furthermore, based on the projected 28.05% LCFF gap funding for 2014-15, Newark USD's LCFF revenues are projected to be *\$569,621* higher due to BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds that are included in the Newark's LCFF funding calculation.

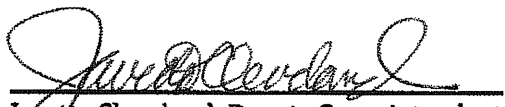
- Again, any claim that LCFF equalizes BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds among EBBIC Districts for 2014-15 would be false. None of the other EBBIC Districts will receive any increase in LCFF revenues due to BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds, as 100% of the additional revenue are applied solely to Newark USD's LCFF funding.
- In addition, based on projected LCFF funding for 2015-16 and 2016-17, Newark USD would continue to receive over \$650,000 more revenue due to BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds that are included in the Newark's LCFF funding.
- In summary, LCFF does not equalize BTSA (Teacher Credentialing Block Grant) funds among EBBIC school districts. Newark USD will gain 100% of the LCFF funding attributable to BTSA funds due to its role as fiscal agent for EBBIC. Newark USD's gain in LCFF funding is currently projected to be nearly \$2,000,000 through 2016-17. The remaining EBBIC school district will receive \$0.
- Pleasanton USD, is also a former BTSA fiscal agent and receives the additional LCFF funding in the same way that Newark USD is receiving the additional LCFF funding. However, unlike Newark USD, Pleasanton USD is continuing to share revenues with consortium members even though these revenues are included within the fiscal agent's LCFF funding.
- Other school districts who are direct funded for BTSA (e.g., Fremont USD, New Haven USD), and not part of a consortium such as EBBIC, report that they are continuing to use nearly all of their BTSA funds to support the BTSA program even though these funds are now included within their LCFF funding.

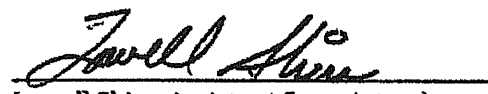
Newark USD's action to withhold funds from the BTSA program and EBBIC member Districts reduces the ability of EBBIC member districts to provide adequate support for beginning teachers.

Respectfully,

  
 Robert Clark, Chief Business Officer  
 Alameda Unified School District

 5/21/14  
 Song Chin-Bendib, Assoc. Superintendent  
 San Leandro Unified School District

  
 Javetta Cleveland, Deputy Superintendent  
 Berkeley Unified School District

  
 Lowell Shira, Assistant Superintendent  
 San Lorenzo Unified School District

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 Elaine Neilsen, Chief Business Official  
 Newark Unified School District